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SECURITY INFORMATION
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY USSR(Ukrainian SSR)

DATE DISTR. 15 February 1952

SUBJECT Tube Rolling Mill at Nikopol

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(LISTED BELOW)

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

REFERENCE COPY

1. Location:

About 2 km west of Nikopol (34°25' E/47°34' N), Ukrainian SSR, at a railroad line leading to the west.

2. Plant installations:

The plant had three workshops with 1936 inscriptions. Of a total of about 17 planned workshops, about 150 meters long, some were under construction in the northeastern plant. The first workshop with six mill trains in its western part was completed in October 1947. The steel frame and concrete floor of a second workshop and excavations for the construction of a third were completed by June 1948. Construction sites for additional workshops were surveyed. The gas generating station had four generators, three in operation. Foundations for eight additional generators were constructed. For plant layout see Annex 1.

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3. Work force;

In the old plant section three shifts each with 700 to 800 Soviets, 50 percent women; in the new plant section one shift with 1,200 PWs. Concrete work was done in three shifts. **

4. Production:

pipes, 12 to 20 meters long and 25 to 45 cm in diameter.* Three to four railroad cars were loaded with pipes every three days. The first new workshop started test production in June 1948.

5. Plant installations;

Extensive enlargements started in 1945 and, according to a Soviet engineer, machinery, dismantled in Rumania in 1945, was installed in the plant in 1946. The main part of the machinery is of German origin, electric motors from AEG and Siemens. The buildings were in good condition but the stone-paved access roads were badly kept. For plant installations see Annex 2.

6. Work Force;

Three shifts each with 3,000 laborers, 30 percent women, and additional 600 PWs and 2,000 convicts doing construction work. **

7. Production;

Seamless tubes, 20 meters long and 20 cm in diameter with threads at the ends and of two types of thickness. The plant installations were provided for the production of pipes, up to 52 cm in diameter. Slugs, 2 meters long and 35 cm in diameter, came from another plant. After the annealing process the pipes are drawn by action of a pointed mandrel, then cut, straightened and provided with threads at the ends. They were completed at intervals of 17 seconds.

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* Comment: Giving first post-war information on the plant this report is forwarded, though the period of observation dates back to 1947 and 1948. The Soviet Newspaper Trud on 23 November 1949 reported a 65 percent production increase of seamless pipes at the plant, officially designated "Bolshoy Shtifel".

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** Comment: The statements of the two sources agree except on the work force. It is assumed that the work force in 1948 was greater than in 1947. Discrepancies on the sketches are explained with the periods of observation being apart one year.

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*** Comment: The construction of 17 new workshops (Source 1) seems exaggerated, with the Trud reporting about 3,000 sq.meters new production room at the plant by 1949, which indicates essential enlargements during the last years. The present stage of constructions cannot be determined unless recent information is received.

3 annexes: 2 sketches of the plant.

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Legend to Annex 1



- 1 Three old workshops in operation
- 2 New workshops, at least 150 meters long
 - a Six annealing furnaces
 - b Three smokestacks, 70 meters high
 - c Six mill trains for pipe manufacture
- 3 Second new workshop, steel frame completed
- 4 Excavations for a third workshop
- 5 Surveyed construction site of new workshop
- 6 Transformer station, newly constructed
 - a Heavy power transmission line from Zaporoze
 - b Outdoor transformers
- 7 Two magazines
- 8 Unidentified new construction
- 9 Boiler house with two sets of three boilers each (a), three underground pipe lines were completed in June 1948
- 10 Petroleum station with four bunkers, each 15 meters in diameter and 7 meters deep under surface, two were completed in June 1948, two were still under construction.
- 11 Gas generating installation
 - a Concreted coal pit
 - b Coal conveyer tower
 - c Conveyer belt
 - d Generator station with 12 projected generators, completed, one under construction and foundations for eight generators completed. Generators measure 3 meters in diameter and 15 meters in height

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2/Annex 1

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- e Gas pipe line, 2 meters in diameter
- f Concreted coke extinguishing pit
- g Two coal silos, each 25 meters in diameter and 12 meters deep, concreted

The generators did not start operation

- 12 Garages
- 13 Administration with PC camp No 7315/6 on the third floor
- 14 Suburban railroad station

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1/Annex 2

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Legend to Annex 2

A Tube rolling mill

- 1 Administration, five-story building
- 2 Workshop, 200x200 meters, off-limits to PWs
 - a Transformer station
 - b Administration
 - c Three smokestacks, 60 meters high
- 3 Rolling mill, 200x200x25 meters, steel-structure building with three mill trains, 15 annealing furnaces, 6 travelling cranes, three metal saws, three railroad connections, three sheet-metal smokestacks, about 60 meters high, construction office and kitchen
- 4 Lathe shop with railroad connection
- 5 Transformer station, 80x40x5 meters
- 6 Forge, iron frame with concrete filling, 50x50x10 meters, under construction
- 7 Foundry under construction, 50x50x10 meters
- 8 Four underground oil tanks, each 12 meters in diameter and 10 meters high
- 9 Gas plant under construction, brick building
- 10 Slug dump

B Bath

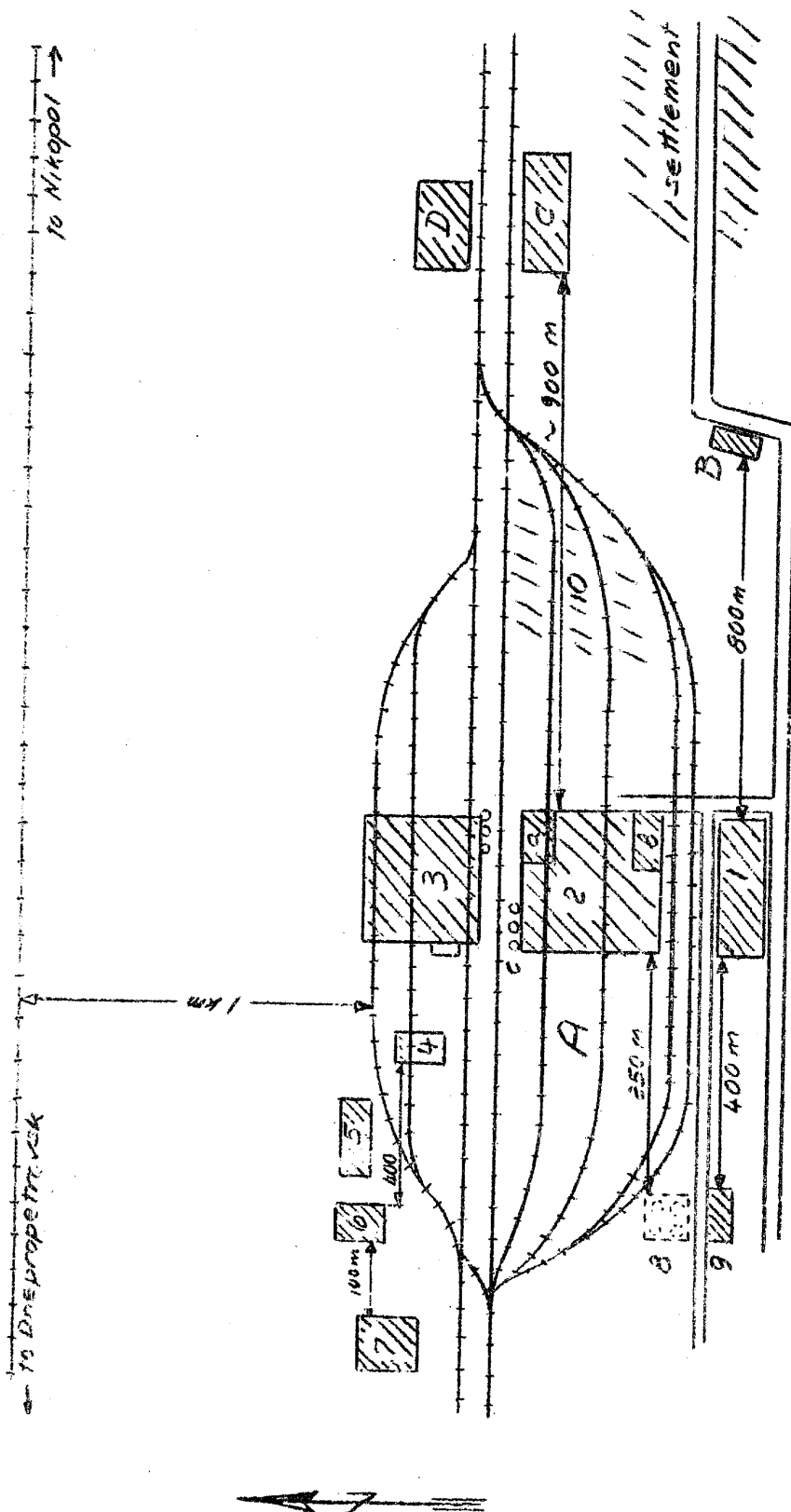
C Sawmill

D Railroad depot

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Annex I

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scale about 1:10,000

